

# Indiana House of Representatives

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## News and Information

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **BROWN BILL TO EXTEND PRESCRIPTION DRUG ADVISORY COMMITTEE GOES TO GOVERNOR**

INDIANAPOLIS --- House Bill 1325, legislation co-authored by State Rep. Charlie Brown (D-Gary), that extends the life of the state's Prescription Drug Advisory Committee, is eligible for final approval.

Brown had originally introduced the legislation that established the committee nearly a decade ago. Without House Bill 1325, the group will go out of existence at the end of this year. The bill extends the term of the committee until December 2007.

"I was very happy to see that the General Assembly has recognized the important work that this committee is doing and feels that it is worthwhile to lengthen the term the committee is in effect," said Brown.

House Bill 1325 also provides that the Prescription Drug Advisory Committee make recommendations to avoid duplication of or conflict with the federal Medicare prescription drug benefit program. Furthermore, this bill enables the Secretary of Family and Social Services to enroll eligible Hoosiers in both the state and federal prescription drug benefit plans.

"Filing the necessary paperwork to qualify for federal and state prescription drug plans can be time consuming and confusing," Brown said. "It is necessary to not only streamline the process, but allow the Family and Social Services Administration to help out Hoosiers with the application process."

House Bill 1325 will now go to the governor for final approval.

— 30 —

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